FAWKES
DOE

015

THE WOLVERINE IS DEAD. HIS LEGACY REMAINS.

LOGAN MET HIS END WHILE DESTROYING A REVAMPED VERSION OF THE WEAPON X PROJECT LOCATED IN A FACILITY KNOWN AS PARADISE.

LOGAN COULD NOT ESCAPE, BUT OTHERS DID--FIVE TEST SUBJECTS, ALL GRANTED STRANGE NEW POWERS. NONE WERE EVER INTENDED TO SURVIVE OUTSIDE THE PROGRAM, AND ALL HAVE BEEN INFUSED WITH A TICKING CLOCK IN THEIR DNA THAT WILL KILL THEM UNLESS IT CAN BE DEACTIVATED.

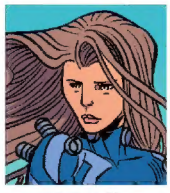
THESE LOST WEAPONS KIDNAPPED A GROUP OF FIVE OF WOLVERINE'S DEADLIEST ASSOCIATES IN THE HOPE THAT THEIR HEALING FACTORS MIGHT HOLD THE ANSWER TO SAVING THE TEST SUBJECTS' LIVES. THE REFUGEES FROM PARADISE HOLD SIGNIFICANT LEVERAGE OVER THE FIVE KILLERS--SECRET "CONTROL WORDS" THAT CAN MANIPULATE, SEDATE OR EVEN KILL EACH OF THEM.

DAKEN HAS BEEN PLOTTING REVENGE ON SIPHON, THE CREATURE WHO STOLE HIS HEALING FACTOR, WHICH LED TO THE LOSS OF DAKEN'S ARM AND EYE AT THE HANDS OF MISTER SINISTER. AFTER RECEIVING A CALL ABOUT SIPHON'S LOCATION, DAKEN WENT OFF ON A BLIND MISSION FOR VENGEANCE. WORRIED ABOUT HIM IN HIS WEAKENED STATE, X-23 FOLLOWED, AND BOTH FOUND SIPHON--IN THE MIDST OF A VAMPIRE INFESTATION, GOING HEAD-TO-HEAD AGAINST BLADE, LEGENDARY VAMPIRE AND MONSTER KILLER EXTRAORDINAIRE.

PARADISE

SHOGUN

NEURO

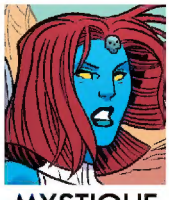

ENDO

SKEL

JUNK

FANTOMELLE

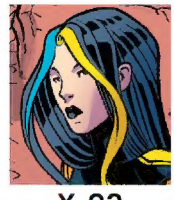
THE WOLVERINES


MYSTIQUE

SABRETOOTH

LADY DEATHSTRIKE

DAKEN


X-23

RAY FAWKES
WRITER

JUAN DOE
ART

VC'S CORY PETIT
LETTERER

CHRISTINA HARRINGTON
ASSISTANT EDITOR

KATIE KUBERT & MIKE MARTS
EDITORS

GUILLEM MARCH COVER ART
AXEL ALONSO EDITOR IN CHIEF **JOE QUESADA** CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER **ALAN FINE** EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

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DEATH VALLEY.
LET HER GO, SIPHON.
THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE AN HONORABLE DUEL BETWEEN YOU AND ME.
X-23 IS THE ONE WHO INTERFERED, DAKEN.
I'LL ADD HER POWER TO MINE...
...AND THERE'LL BE ONE LESS MONSTER IN THE WORLD.
YOU'RE ALL CRAZY...
SHNNK'K
...AND AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED...

...FIRST PRIZE IN THIS FIGHT...
...IS GETTING YOUR PHILOSOPHICAL ASS KILLED...
...BY ME.
THUNK!
ANGH!
RRRAGH!
EXCEPT YOU.
I LIKE YOUR STYLE.
YEAH, THANKS, BLADE.
NO!

NO... WHEN I HEAL...
...IT TAAAKES MY... MY MIND.
WELL, BEFORE IT GOES...

...I WANT YOU TO KNOW I BEAT YOU.
SAY MY NAME.
WHOK
NOT QUOTING OLD SAMURAI BOOKS AT ME ANYMORE, ARE YOU?
SAY MY NAME!
KRAK!

DA...
...KEN...
KRRAKK
AIIIAARRRGHHH!

DAKEN! GIVE IT UP ALREADY!
HE'S TAKING YOU APART, BIT BY BIT!
NO, LAURA, THIS ISN'T UP TO YOU. IT'S UP TO ME.
LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE A WINNER!
KUH. KILL!
WHOOUFF--
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, GIRL?
YOU CAN'T LET HIM TOUCH YOU. HE'LL DRAIN AWAY YOUR ABILITY TO HEAL.
YOU'LL END UP LIKE DAKEN.
STUPID AND SUICIDAL?
HEY, EASY.
REVENGE ON THIS GUY MIGHT BE KINDA SORTA THE ONLY THING DAKEN IS LIVING FOR RIGHT NOW.
HIS DAD DIED, AND--IT'S COMPLICATED.

NAH...
THAK!
...IT'S NEVER COMPLICATED.
OKAY, LOOK, BLADE-- YOU ALSO CAN'T KILL SIPHON.
WE MIGHT NEED HIM ALIVE. THERE'S THIS WHOLE DNA THING WE'RE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT, AND...
...NO, REALLY.
IT'S COMPLICATED.
RIGHT. I WON'T KILL HIM.
BUT I WILL END THIS DAMN FIGHT!
UGH.
MEN.

36,000 FEET ABOVE.
YOU MUST THINK WE'RE ALL PRETTY SIMPLE, MYSTIQUE.
SURE, ALWAYS FIVE STEPS AHEAD OF THE REST OF US.
I'M TIRED OF YOU PUSHING US AROUND! YOU NEED SOMETHING FROM US, WHY DON'T YOU JUST COME OUT AND SAY IT?
WHY ARE WE KIDNAPPING THIS PORTAL GUY?
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?
HEY, HE ATTACKED US, SHOGUN. I'M JUST LUCKY ALL OF YOU WERE HERE TO HELP.
WELL, ALL EXCEPT LADY DEATHSTRIKE.
HE ATTACKED YOU, MYSTIQUE. NOT US.
WHY WOULD I WANT TO HELP YOU?
MM-HMM, SEE...?
...YOU WANT SOMEBODY TO MISTRUST, TRY HER.
NO, YOU'RE--DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT!
WHY DO WE WANT PORTAL?

ALL RIGHT. THERE IS A PLAN.
IT'S RISKY, AND I WAS PRETTY SURE NONE OF YOU WOULD BUY IN IF I JUST TOLD YOU.
BUT IF WE PULL THIS OFF RIGHT, IT'LL SOLVE ALL OUR PROBLEMS.
YOU'LL SHAKE THIS GENETIC DEATH SENTENCE YOU'VE BEEN SADDLED WITH, FOR ONE THING.
AND YOU WON'T HAVE TO SHAKE HANDS WITH MISTER SINISTER TO DO IT.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, IT'LL SOLVE ALL OUR PROBLEMS? WHAT'S THIS GONNA DO FOR ME?
OR IS THIS LIKE SAYING "US" WHEN YOU MEAN YOU?
ARE YOU JUST TALKING ABOUT YOUR PROBLEMS?
NO, SABRETOOTH, I--
→SIGH←
THIS IS WHY I DON'T WANT TO TELL YOU. IF YOU'RE ALL SECOND-GUESSING EVERYTHING...

"...WE'LL NEVER WIN."
RRRAAARRR!
WE'RE NEVER GOING TO WIN THIS...
...SIPHON WAS BUILT FOR THIS KIND OF FIGHT!
EEEAAAAAA!
SHUKK
CORNELIUS MADE HIM, JUST LIKE HE MADE WOLVERINE!
HE DIDN'T MAKE ME.
CRASSH
WHAK
GIRL'S RIGHT...

...WE GOTTA TAKE THIS TO OPEN GROUND.
NUH GROUND...
...ISSS SAFE...
I TOLD YOU!
YOU CAN'T TOUCH HIM! HE'LL TAKE YOUR HEALING POWER AND USE IT AGAINST US!
DAMN!
YOU KNOW I HATE THINGS THAT STEAL LIFE.
SHIKK
RRAGH!
RRRGH...
YEAH, YOU DON'T WANNA DO THAT...

CHUK
...THAT'S MY SWORD.
NOBODY HOLDS IT BUT ME.
EEEEAAAAA—
IT'S HORRIBLE. I MEAN, LOOK AT HIM.
TEN MINUTES AGO, HE WAS TALKING ABOUT PHILOSOPHY AND TRYING TO PLEAD WITH US. NOW HE CAN BARELY GET A WORD OUT.
AAAUUUUUU!
DAKEN, JUST LEAVE HIM!
WHAT IF HE USED TO BE A GOOD PERSON? WHAT IF HE DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE? WHAT IF WE CAN HELP HIM?
SHUT UP.
"THE ONLY REASON A WARRIOR IS ALIVE IS TO FIGHT."
HE'S THE ONE WHO SAID THAT TO ME.
"THE ONLY REASON A WARRIOR FIGHTS IS TO WIN."
RRRAH!

NO.
KAK
ARRGGH!
THIS ISN'T GOING TO MAKE ANYONE HAPPY!
YOU KILL HIM, AND THEN WHAT? THEN YOU CAN GET ANGRY BECAUSE WE HELPED YOU, OR BECAUSE HE DIDN'T BEG FOR MERCY, OR WHATEVER!
YOU'LL NEVER BE SATISFIED!
I SAID SHUT UP, LAURA!
YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING?
I'M JUST LIKE HIM! I WAS DESIGNED FOR NOTHING BUT KILLING! EVERY INSTINCT I HAVE WAS CUSTOM-TAILORED FOR IT!
I HAVE TO FIGHT MY PROGRAMMING EVERY DAY!
YOU HAVE A CHOICE...

...YOU'VE ALWAYS HAD A CHOICE!
HSSSSS...

CHUK
I GUESS THIS IS WHAT THEY CALL HAVING A MOMENT.
AAAUURRRR--
GETTING ALL ENLIGHTENED AND SUCH.
STEP AWAY. I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT YOU, BUT I WILL.
WE'VE GOT THIS.
ME, I'VE NEVER BEEN ONE FOR--
BLADE.

THAT'S RIGHT.
CAVALRY'S HERE.
LEAVE SIPHON TO US.

YEAH. NO PROBLEM.
I TOOK CARE OF MY BUSINESS HERE. VAMPIRES ARE ALL DEAD. YOU PUT THAT THING AWAY, THERE'S NO REASON FOR ME TO HANG AROUND.
DO ME A FAVOR AND TORCH THIS PLACE WHEN YOU'RE DONE...
...THERE COULD STILL BE A RAT IN THE NEST, YOU KNOW?
IT'S A DEAL.
AND... THANKS.
HOW DID THEY KNOW?
WHAT?
WATCH IT!
HOW DID THEY KNOW WE WERE HERE?

JUNK, TELL ME-- HOW DID YOU KNOW?
EASY, MAN...
GET TO THE MEDICAL BAY, DAKEN.
YOUR ARM IS BROKEN. YOU'RE NOT THINKING STRAIGHT.
BUT I AM, SHOGUN.
SIPHON SAID THAT HE AND I WERE BOTH LED INTO A TRAP.
THAT WE WERE SET UP. THAT'S STARTING TO BE A FAMILIAR FEELING.
AND NOW, HERE YOU ALL ARE. AND IT LOOKS LIKE YOU WANTED TO CAPTURE SIPHON. AM I RIGHT?
I DIDN'T TELL YOU WHERE I WAS GOING.
SHIP SYSTEMS TRACKED YOU AFTER YOU JUMPED, DAKEN.
IT WASN'T HARD TO DO.
AND GETTING OUR HANDS ON SIPHON IS JUST A BONUS. CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT WE CAN LEARN ABOUT THE HEALING FACTORS FROM HIM?

DON'T LOOK AT ME. SHOGUN'S TELLING THE TRUTH.
HE DON'T LOOK SO TOUGH.
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO WITH HIM, JUNK?
I DON'T KNOW, PUT HIM IN *STASIS*.
SEE IF THE SHIP COMPUTER CAN GET ANY INFO OUT OF HIM, I GUESS.
LIARS.
YOU'RE *ALL* LIARS.

TWO HOURS LATER.
CHK
HNNGH!
CHAK
UNGH!
LEAVE ME ALONE, MYSTIQUE.
WHATEVER IT IS YOU WANT TO KNOW, YOU CAN ASK ME FOR REAL. I'M NOT GOING TO BE TRICKED.
WHAT? LAURA, I'M NOT--
PLEASE. DON'T INSULT ME. YOU THINK YOU'RE SO CLEVER.
YOU'RE LIKE THE DEVIL, AREN'T YOU? YOU COULDN'T BE STRAIGHT WITH ONE OF US IF YOU WANTED TO.

AND THIS IS WHAT'S REALLY GONNA KEEP YOU UP TONIGHT:
HOW DID I KNOW YOU'RE *YOU* AND NOT DAKEN?
I'LL NEVER TELL.
EVERYTHING'S SPEEDING UP, ISN'T IT? YOU'RE ON SOME KIND OF *TIMETABLE.*
YOU'VE BEEN PLAYING US ALL ALONG, AND NOW YOU NEED US ALL IN POSITION FOR HOWEVER THIS IS ALL SUPPOSED TO *END.*
BUT WHAT IF WE DON'T *WANT* TO PLAY?
WHAT IF WE'VE GOT A *CHOICE?*
AND WHAT IF SOME OF US ARE JUST AS CLEVER AS YOU?

HEH.
WHAT IF?
IT'S NOT COMPLICATED, LAURA. IF THAT'S HOW IT IS...
...THEN I SUPPOSE WE'LL JUST HAVE TO SEE WHO PLAYS THIS GAME BEST.
NEXT:
SOMETHING SINISTER THIS WAY COMES...